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NOTES FROM THE RECORDS OF YORK COUNTY.

For twenty three years after the landing at Jamestown the English settlements in Virginia were confined to the shores of James River and to the peninsula of Accomac on the east side of Chesapeake Bay. Among the rivers that emptied into this great aestuary the James and York cut off a section of land, which in a country abounding in peninsulas became known as "The Peninsula." The recognition of the need of a settlement on the latter river was soon felt, and as early as 1611 Sir Thomas Dale, then governor, in a letter to the Earl of Salisbury, recommended a fortified settlement at Chiskiack, as the region on the south side of the York was called. After the Indian Massacre in 1622, when the Chiskiack Indians deserted their territory, the idea of "winning the forest" by running a pale from Martin's Hundred on James River to Chiskiack on York River and planting settlements on both rivers was discussed by Governor Wyatt and his council; and in 1626 Samuel Matthews of Denbigh in Warwick County and William Claiborne of Kecoughtan offered to build the palisades, defended by houses, at short intervals.

No steps were taken to carry out the project till Sir John Harvey arrived as Governor in 1630. Then at a meeting of the council on October 8, 1630, as appears from a patent recorded at Yorktown, an order was entered offering as an encouragement, "for the securing and taking in a tract of land called the forest bounding upon the cheife residence of ye Pamunkey King, the most dangerous head of ye Indyan enemy," fifty acres to every person who should settle the first year on York River and 25 acres to every person who the second year should settle there. At the same court two tracts of 600 acres apiece were granted to Captain John West, brother of Lord Delaware, and Captain John Utie, who were made commanders of the settlement.

About four miles above the modern Yorktown two creeks known as King's Creek and Fellgate's Creek form a bay opening into York River. And on the west of this bay settled Captain West, and on the East settled Captain Utie. East of Captain West settled Francis Morgan and near him on the East side of Yorktown creek was Captain Richard Townsend.

East of Yorktown Creek, occupying the site of the present Yorktown was Capt. Nicholas Martieu,[1] ancestor of George Washington, and at the present Temple Farm were settlers sent by Sir John Harvey to his plantation called "York." Between King's and Fellgate's Creeks, at their junction, settled Capt. Robert Fellgate, of London. In 1631, William Claiborne with 100 men settled Kent Island (now a part of Maryland) 150 miles up Chesapeake Bay, and in the Assembly which met at Jamestown, February, 1632, Capt. Martieu took his seat as the representative of "Kiskyacke and the Isle of Kent." By September, 1632, population on the south side of York River was extensive enough to claim two representatives in the Assembly. The region was divided into two plantations—one retaining the old name Chiskiack and the other styled York. Captain Martieu represented the first, and Lionel Rowlston the second. The following year (1633) it was enacted that a fortieth part of the men in the compasse of the forest east of Archer's Hope and Queen's Creek to Chesapeake Bay, should be present "before the first day of March next" at Dr. John Pott's plantation, "newlie built," at the head of Archer's Hope Creek, to erect houses and secure land in that quarter. Under this encouragement, palisades, six miles in length, were run from creek to creek, and on the ridge between, a settlement called Middle Plantation, (afterwards Williamsburg), was made.

By order of the council dated June 6, 1632, Captain John West was granted 2000 acres "in right of his son, being the first born christian of Chickiack." There is little reason to doubt that this son was Col. John West, of West Point, to which place his father removed, in 1650, on selling his place (now known as Bellfield), to Governor Edward Digges, fourth son of Sir Dudley Digges, Master of Rolls to King Charles I. The place remained in the Digges family till 1787 when it was sold to William Waller. During most of the time it was in the possession of the Diggesses it was known as the E. D. plantation (Edward Digges Plantation), and was famous originally as the chief seat of the silk culture in Virginia and afterwards for a brand of sweet scented tobacco called the E. D., which it is said never failed to bring in England "one shilling in the pound when other tobacco would not bring three pence." [2]

The seat of Captain John Utie on the York, known first as "Utimaria," was sold by his son John to Capt. William Tayloe, (sometimes spelt

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[1] In the old records the letter "t" resembled the letter "l" and the letter "u" resembled the letters "n" and "r." Hence Captain Martieu, who was a Frenchman, suffered the experience of having his name printed Marlier, Martian, Martien and Martin.

[2] East of Bellfield is a farm on the river known as "Indian Field," which was very probably the site of Chiskiack Indian villiage previous to 1622.

Taylor in the early records) who married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Kingsmill, of Jamestown Island. On Col. Tayloe's death the land went to Col. Nathaniel Bacon by his marriage with the widow and by a deed from his heir and nephew William Tayloe of Richmond County. Bacon absorbed other grants, among them the land of John Cotton, who wrote the history of Bacon's Rebellion. Col. Bacon, who was first cousin once removed of Nathaniel Bacon, Jr., the Rebel, died in 1691, and his property went to his niece Abigail Smith, who married Major Lewis Burwell. On Burwell's death, in 1710, it became the property of James Burwell, his son. The plantation has been long known as "King's Creek plantation," and is celebrated as the place where Sir William Berkeley first put foot to land on the western shore, after being driven from Jamestown by Nathaniel Bacon, Jr. Here at his arrival William Drummond, Bacon's friend, was surrendered to him.

At Capt. Richard Townsend's land, west of Yorktown Creek, it was first intended to establish the College of William and Mary.

After Martieu's death, his plantation fell to Col. George Reade, Secretary of State, who married his daughter Elizabeth. In 1691 it was laid out as Yorktown, and to this place the county seat was removed soon after.

York Plantation (consisting at first of 750 acres) now known as "Temple Farm" was, as stated, first settled by Governor Sir John Harvey. When the Governor, after his administration, became a bankrupt, this place, with his property at Jamestown, was sold in 1644 and was purchased by Col. George Ludlow, a cousin of Major General Edmund Ludlow, one of Cromwell's generals. Ludlow patented it and adjoining lands in 1646, describing his tract as running up York River 555 poles. Ludlow died in 1656, and his land descended to his nephew Lt. Col. Thomas Ludlow, who died in 1660. For a number of years it remained in the occupation of Rev. Peter Temple, who married Mary, the widow of the last, but in 1686 it was sold to Major Lawrence Smith, of Gloucester Co. It continued in Major Smith's family till 1769, when Robert Smith sold it to Augustine Moore, who married his sister Lucy Smith. In the Moore house, which is still standing, were signed, in 1781, the articles of surrender by Lord Cornwallis. There is no evidence from the records that Alexander Spotswood ever owned the place, as is sometimes stated.

In the earliest days court was held from time to time at the houses of the more prominent planters, but about 1658 York became the usual place, where the house of Capt. Robert Baldrey was hired for 1000 pds of tobacco a year. In 1676 the court was moved to the French Ordinary, located at the "half way house," and continued there until 1691, when Yorktown was laid out at Col. Reade's place. At York also was the old church of York parish, the site of which is marked by a tombstone of Major William Gooch, who died in 1655.

On the east side of Wormeley's Creek settled in 1635, Christopher Wormeley, formerly governor of the Tortugas Island in the West Indies. He died in 1646, and was succeeded by his brother Ralph, and it was at this place, in 1649, that Sir Thomas Lunsford, Sir Henry Chicheley, Sir Philip Honeywood and Col. Mainwaring Hammond, fugitive cavaliers, were entertained after their arrival in Virginia.

York County (known first as Charles River County) had at first an indefinite northerly and westerly extension and was created in 1634. In 1651 Gloucester County on the north of the York, and in 1654 New Kent County, comprising all the country west of Skimeno Creek on the south side and Porpotank Creek, on the north side, were cut off. In 1657 the parishes in York County were (beginning on the west) *Marston,* between Queen's Creek and York River; *Middle plantation,* comprising the settlement of that name on the north of Queen's Creek; *Chiskiack* or *Hampton,* between Queen's Creek and Townsend Creek (afterwards Yorktown Creek); *York,* between Yorktown Creek and Back Creek; *New Poquoson,* afterwards *Charles River Parish,* between Back Creek and Poquoson River. In 1658 Harrop Parish in James City County and Middle Plantation were united and made Middletown Parish; and, in 1674, Marston and Middletown became Bruton Parish. In 1706 York and Hampton parishes were united to make York-Hampton parish.

The first entry in the records is a caption of a court without proceedings held at Utimaria (the residence of Capt. John Utie) the 12th day of July, 1633. The justices present were Capt. John Utie, Mr. Wm English, Capt. Nicholas Martian, Mr. Lyonell Rowlston, Capt. Robert ffelgate, Mr. Richard Townsend.

Courts were held at Utimaria ye 12th, of August, 1633, September ye 20th, 1633, and October ye 25th, 1633, then at York ye 7th day of January, 1633, then at Utimaria the 8th day of April, 1634, and ye 5th day of May, 1634, then at York 7th of July, 1634, and then again at Utimaria August ye 12th, 1634. No entries were made under the captions. York was not the present Yorktown, but a settlement made by Sir John Harvey in 1630 on the west side of Wormeley's Creek. November ye 3d 1634. A cort was houlden at Utimaria. Present: Capt. John West, Capt. Robt ffelgate, Capt. John Utie, Mr. John Chew, Capt. Nicholas Martian.

At a Court held att Mr William Pryor's ye 22th of June, 1637. Present &c. Adam Lynsey's will, (his mark). Legatees:

Ann, the wife of John Jackson, Christian Owen of the Poquosin, and Edward Mollson. Date July 30, 1636. Witnesses: Wm. Hockaday, Alexander Gregory. An inventory of all the goods found belonging unto Ralph Gerard, deceased, in the home of Anthony Panton, Clerck, dwelling at Cheeskake, taken by those whose names are under written July ye 24th 1637. (Names underwritten: Serjeant John Wayne x his mark, Thomas Blease.)

A court houlden att the Governo^{rs} house (Capt. John West was governor) the 18th of March, 1637. Present &c: It is ordered by this Co^{rt} tthat the Leases belonging to ye Governo^{rs} Tenants be recorded. (York plantation was divided into tracts, which were leased.)

A Court held att Mr William Pryors the 20th July Anno Domini, 1638. Present, Capt Williams Brocas, Esq., Capt Nicholas Martian, Capt John Chisman, Mr John Chow, Capt Richard Townshend, Mr William Pryor. John Utie, "of Utimaria, Esq.," acknowledges to have sold unto Edward Mollson, Sawyer, one hundred acres of land lying between the lands of ffrancis Morgan and Mr William Pryor. Witnesses. Edw. Major, James Besouth. Dated 20 Nov., 1635. For 1000 feet of sawn boards received and 800 more to be paid. Assigned to Francis Morgan.

Joseph Ham's will, x his mark, attested by Mar: Johnson, Clerk, son and dau John and Catherine Peade, to have 30 young kids in satisfaction of a legacy from their father, John Pead; Mary, my wife, to have 20 goats. Witness Robert Brockwell, minister, Pere Bland.

25th day of April, 1639, Robt Bouth is clerk. Att a co^{rt} holden att James Citty the 5th day of March, 1640 (1641). Present: Sir Francis Wyatt, Kn^{t} Governo^{r}, Capt John West Mr George Minifey, Capt Wm Peirce, Capt Wm Brocas, Mr Roger Wingate, Mr Ambrose Harmer.

John Jackson's will—wife Ann Jackson, son Henry Jackson. Signed John Jackson, X his mark. Dated 22 Oct., 1640.

MISCELLANEOUS DEEDS AND WILLS.

Martin Becker, Merch^{t} on 2^{d} May, 1635, rents to Thomas Trotter, Thomas Jefferyes and John Balyes of York in the country of Virginia plant^{rs}: "One parcell of land in York plantation" for 11 years, "from the River side unto a marked poplar;" rent "50 pds of good Merchantable tobacco." Witnesses: Charles Bibb & Richd Hamlin.

Same to John Penrise for 100 acres in York plantation. 23 Oct., 1636. Witn: John Hampton, Wm Hockaday.

Lyonell Rowlston (of Virginia gent.) leases to Edw. Johnson, for life of John (?) Johnson his wife, & Luke Johnson his son, dated 15 Nov. 1632. Witn: John Penrise.

Martin Becker, of Plimouth, England, Merch^{t}, leases for life of Wm Warren & Ann, his now wife, land on York river adjoining Edw'd Johnson, John Jackson & said Becker's land. Dated 13 Mch., 1633. Wit: Robert Cume, ffrancis Arkistall.

Richard Major sells to Thomas Bourne, cooper, 25 acres on west side of West's Creek, bordering upon lands of Wm. Barber. 1^{s} Oct: 1638. Witn: Robert Booth, Rowl. Burnham. Thomas Bourne, cooper, X his mark, assigns this land over to Wm Barber of Chiscak, cooper, 1 Oct., 1638.

Wm Reynolds, X, of Cheiskake, planter.

John Utie & Robert Booth sell 100 acres at head of Queen's creek to Thomas Gybson, 13 Nov., 1639. Witn: Thomas Watts, Edmund Plunkett.

John Utie & Mary Utie his wife sell to Thomas Gybson 20 March, 1639. Witn: John Baldwin, Hugh Owin, Anthony Parkhurst, Thomas Lucas.

John Condon's patent for 50 acres.

Robert Booth, clerk of the court, attests a Bill of sale of Wm Reynolds, Octob^{r} ye 5th 1640.

Att a quarter court houlden at James Citty the 18th of Sept., 1640. Present: Sir Francis Wyatt, Governo^{r}, Capt John West, Capt Wm Brocas, Mr Roger Wingatte, Mr Ambrose Harmer.

I William Taylor, of Utimaria, in Charles River Co., sell to Wm Blackay for John Utie, gent., 100 acres on Queen's creek,

butting upon Bell's creek west, beginning att Bell's bridge, at a marked tree, and so running 3 quarters of a Mile South East & from thence 68 poles, N. W., untill itt meets with Queen's House ffence, and then par^{ll} with the fence till itt meets with Bell's creek, as aforesaid. Date 25 Dec^{r}, 1640.

John Congden X (his mark) sells to Edward Percivall 25 acres on Back creek "with two boarded houses belonging to the said 25 acres, the one house of 30 foot, and the other of twenty foote long, wth certain clear ground belonging to said land. Dated 20 May, 1639. Witn: Humphrey Harmer, Peter Rigsby, X (his mark).

John Bell sells his land to Samuel Watkeys.

At a Quarter Court houlden att James City the thirteenth of December, 1641. Present Sir Francis Wyatt Kn^{t}, governor, Capt John West, Capt Thomas Willoughby, Mr George Menifie, M^{r}Ambrose Harmer. Deed of John Utie, of Utimaria, by me Robert Bouth, to Capt Stephen Gill, chirurgeon, 100 acres on English's plantation adjoining lands of James Besouth, Henry Willis on 26 Jan., 1638. Assigned by Gill to Capt. Wm. Leigh 1640, assigned by Leigh to John Hall. The transfer recites that the 100 acres lay in Cheeskiake in Divydent of William Taylor and that John Utie was soon & Heire of Capt. John Utie, the originall proprietor of the s^{d} Land.

RECORDS FROM 1645 TO 1648.

Whereas Thomas Waldoe was by the churchwardens of the New Poquoson presented for an abuse of the church and minister and for not receiving the sacrament, the Court doth therefore order him the said Waldoe to bring certificate under the hand of Mr Charles Grundy minister of the said p'ish of his reformation of the said abuses to ye next court, otherwise to be censured by the Court for the same. December 20, 1645.

Whereas Geo. fforde father-in-law and Guardian to John Saker, sonn of John Saker dec'd, hath this court presented accompt of his charges Layed out for the scoleing cloathing diett & other necessaryes, Charges for the education and keeping of ye s^{d} John Sacker his estate wch acc^{t} amounted to ye sume of two

thousand nine hundred & twenty pounds of tobacco as alsoe hath psented to ye Court an acco^{t} of ye s^{d} Sakers Cattle & increase. This Court doth therefore order that for ye abovs^{d} Charges and for all future Charges that the said George fford shall have & possess all the male cattle that he now or hereafter shall be fallen out of ye s^{d} John Sackers stocke wch shall be in full satisfaction of the abovsd charges p^{r}sent and future.

Certificate granted to Thomas Chapman for 1200 acres for importing Tho. Hinde, Richard North, Wm. James, James Harleson, Isaac Sanderson, Thomas Adkins, Robert Smith, John Pratt, Phillip More, Mary Green, John Wallis, Wm. Long, Wm. Payne, Henry Page, Thomas Reynolds, James Lewis, Thomas Andrews, Eliz. Smith, Richard Dogden, Ralph Boger, Thomas Roahds, Richard King,, ffrancis Hide and John Bridges.

We whose names are subscribed being sworne appraisers of the Estate of Richard Winne deceased have according to our best judgments valued it as follows:

	Tobb.
Imp^{r}mis. A fixt musket & shot bag	200
One owld suite of clothes a babers case	
4 verry owld Bookes, 2 owld fishing lines & a hooke	60

Jurat in cur vicessimo die Dec. 1645. Teste me Robt Bouth.

The Estate of John Saker sonne of John Saker deceased, dr

	tob.
Imp^{r}mis, to scholeing one yeare	200
To 3 yds of stuffe at 60 ℔ y^{d} & making the suite	190
To 2 ells of cannes for drawers & making	070
To 2 pre of shoes	090
To 2 shirts	040
To a munmouth capp	050
To a marking Iron to marke his cattle	050
To 3 yds of cotton & making his suite	900
To 1 p're of shooes	030
To sixe barrells of corne for 2 years pvision	660
To his scholeing one yeare more	150
To 3 yeares keeping his cattle being 12 heads the first yeare	1200
Sume	2920

A list of John Sakers cattle
Impr^mis Seaven cowes
Item fower heifers on yeare old & upwards
Item twoe cow calves fallen this yeare & one dead
Item one steers fower yeare old
Item twoe bulls three yeares old
Item twoe yeares old & upwards
One of ye same age kild by ye fall of a tree
Item one stere calfe of on yeare old & upwards
Item fower steers Calves fallen yis years in all alive 23 hd of Cattle.

Edward Mihills gift of twoe cowes to Robert Sheild 19th ffebruary, 1645.

Att A meeting by the Comittee of the forrest this 3^d day of January, 1645.
p^rsent Capt Samuel Mathews
Capt Wm Brocas
George Ludlowe
Capt Richard Townshend
Capt Thomas Barnett
Capt Christopher Calthropp
Mr Rowland Burnham
Mr Arthur Price
Mr Peeter Riddley

An order that "George Ludlowe Esq pay fifty pownes of powder for the use of the county of Yorke uppon all demands unto such as shall be authorized to receive the same. And that the Levey form^rly Layd by the Lefts of the County to stand of force."

A similar order against Capt Richard Townsend.

This day Phillipp Thacker was sworne to pforme the office of an under sheriffe under Capt Wm Tyalor high sherr of yis county in the p^rsents of Capt Rich: Townshend Esq at the request of Capt Wm Taylor.

Teste me Ro: Bouth Cler.

January the 27th 1645, prsent &c.

An order in favor of Thomas Bushrod against Capt Thomas Cornwallis' estate to satisfy a debt of "3030b of tob."

Similar order in favor of Anthony West against Geo. Wescombe.

Jan. 29, 1645 Whereas it appeareth to ye cort that George Codd hath served his time with William Smoote being his last Maister and yat yere is due to him corne and cloathes for the same which is deteyned from him by ye sd Smote. The Court doth yerefore order that the sd Wm Smote shall within ten days pay & deliver unto ye sd George Codd three bbls of corne and cloathes in consideration of his services as afforsd and alsoe to pay Cort charges ells exec.

January the 30th prsent &c.

An order that ffrancis Smith shall pay Thomas Bushrode the atty of Mathew Bassett and Henry Hawley the sume of three hundred and eighty five "pownes to tob" with Court charges.

ffebruary the second Humphrey Hanmore having given to John Griggs house & grownd during his life in the old feilds as alsoe twoe sowes, the Court orders the supervisors of his estate to make payment thereof, Griggs first executing bond &c.

Similar orders directing the payment of other legacies to Arthur Seawell's wife 25 shillings for a ring; Mrs. Margaret Chisman "one silke carpet," Capt John Madison "one sowe," and the churchwardens of New Powquoson parish.

ffebruary the second: Thomas Deacon who formerly undertook to build a prison for the county is ordered to perform the same "at his won cost & charges in respect he hath received full satisfaction for the same according to his agreement" and "for his default herein" the sherr "to hold him in custody until the prison should be finished."

Inventory of Ralph Watson Clerke taken the 22th day of January, 1645. Among other things: Cows, heifers, calves, "a silke gowne," hogs and pigs, sheets, pillows, dishes, earthen potts, one blacke serge suit, "Bookes that these prsers will not

prayse but Mr Grimes according as it was ordered" "Thirty great bookes in folio most of them (a word moth eaten) and old authors, about fifty bookes in quarto most of them being lattin bookes." &c &c.

His executor, Nicholas Dale, presented accounts against the estate footing up altogether 6827 lbs Tob. Among the items:

A grave in the church	050
funerall dinner	300
sheet for a shroud	080

divers dietts for sixe hired servants belonging to the estate &c &c.

Inventory of George Hopkins Minister dec. taken the last day of October, 1645.

Imprmis 3 old sowes in the woods & not to be found.
16 yonge shotes about a yeare old
7 yonge shotes now about 4 mounthes old
One man servant haveing a year to serve
sixe bbls of corne, & cloathes
one Mayd servant two years to serve
one smale fram table & twooe smale cheeres
one couch
one cradle
one forme frame
one small table more
one pistole at
one bedstead
one Iron Pott about 3 gallS & pott hookes
one white Quilt for a bed
one greene carpett
15 Holland napkins & one table
one stuffe Cloake
two old diap table Clothes & twooe towells
twooe p're of old sheetes
twooe p're of old pillow beeres
an old chamber pott and brasse Candle sticke
one old dining castor
one old trunke

one small skellett
his Library of old books in a little smale
made of the servant's cropp of tobacco
made of the servant's cropp of corn
one smale cleane pay booke
one smale sea bedd & Rugg
one smale brasse morter & pestle
one beaver broch & one other old broch
Item one feather (bed) with the appurtenants belonging
one smale gould Ringe
Jurat Coram John West

Among debts paid by his administrator Elizabeth Hopkins his wife are "Tobacco due Capt John West, Esq. for diett 3 yeares, one yeare for Mr Hopkins & one yeare for himselfe wife and two servants."

A court holden for the County of Yorke the 24th of March, 1645.

p'resent Capt Nicholas Martian Mr Francis Morgan
Capt Ralph Wormeley Mr Row: Burnham.

Whereas Wm. Keaton stand bound by Indenture to serve Wm. Hockaday, the assignes of Henry Brooke, the term of five years from february, 1641. And the s^{d} Keaton absenting himself from his said M^{r} uppon pretence of being free from the s^{d} Hockaday as alsoe be ye s^{d} Keaton did run away from his s^{d} (M^{r} in) June last to his great hindrance and damage. The Court doth, therefore, order that the said Wm. Keaton shall serve ye s^{d} William Hockaday till the 28th day of February next according to indenture, and for his running away and peremtory Answearing the co^{rt} in refusing ye p'formance of yere order herein, the sherr shall forthwith cause ye s^{d} Keaton to be whippt at the whipping post & to rec. yerty lashes on his bare shoulders.

24th March, 1645. In the difference "long depending betwixt Martin Westerling plaintiffe & Capt Ralph Wormeley & Mrs Mary Wormeley execu^{rs} of the estate of Capt Christopher Wormeley dec." for a man servant, an order that Capt William Brocas, Esq., who hath intermarryed with ye s^{d} Mrs Mary

Wormeley & Capt Ralph Wormeley make there appearance at the next cort—. the sd Ralph and Mary Wormeley haveing failed in there appearance especially at yis prsent court.

25th March, 1645. Christopher Abbott is yis day chosen Constable for the South-side of Hampton pish & to be sworne by Mr Hugh Gwin.

March 26th 1646. Capt Wm. Brocas, Esq. by Note under his hand doo confesse a judgment to Sr Edmund Plowden Knight for twelve —— pounds of tobacco in Rowle to be pd with Court Charges and forbearance by the last of November next ells exec as alsoe on thousand powndes of tob. more for the service of one man servant from the Eight of July, 1644 till ye twentyeth of december next following & to be found him Cloathing as by his bill of the 8th of June, 1644 appeareth being soe much ym . . . ye sd sr Edmund Plowden for a servant . . . tyme to Nicholas Browne as appearey by . . . of the sd Browne wch sd 1000b tob is tob . . . last of November next with forbearance . . . charged ells exec.

Capt Ralph Wormeley ordered to pay Tho: Shaw three barrells of Corne fetched over by the said Captain Wormeley immediately after the massacre from the howse of Tho: Shaw on the north side of Yorke river.

March the 27th 1646

prsent Capt John West Esq
Capt Nicholas Martian
Mr Hugh Gwin
Mr Rowld Burnham
Mr Robt Vaus

Whereas John Adison peticon yis cort he being a soulder at fort Royall that he might he clear from the paymt of the County Leveyes in regard the sherr hath taken him . . . and requires payment of him. The Court doth therefore order that the sd Addison shall be free from the payment of ye sd Leveyes in regard he was a soulder as afforesd.

Know all men by these prsents that I Mary Minifie widd and executrix of George Menefie late of Buckland Esq. dec. have menchoned, named & appoynted and ordeyred my trustye, & loveinge ffreind Rowland Burnham my true & Lawfull Attorney

for and in my name to aske levy, sue, recover and receive all debts due unto me by bills or booke or otherwise in Yorke County Giveing & by these p^{r}sents granting unto my s^{d} Attorney as full power & authority to sue psecute & accquit all such psons or any of them as in the afforesd county are indebted or ingaged with me as if I myselfe were psonally p^{r}sent In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale the 16y day of ffeb 1645.

Sealed & Witnessed in the p^{r}sence of John Bishop
Humphrey Lister.

Mary Menefie
the seal

To all to whom these p^{r}sents shall come or may concerne, Greetinge &c. These are toe certifie & make knowne that George Menefie of Buckland Esq., deceased, did by his last will & testament make, ordayne and appoint his wife Mrs Mary Menefie his executrix. And that at a Court holden at Westover in the County of Charles Citty the 20th day february 1645 a pbate of the s^{d} will was granted unto the s^{d} Mrs. Mary Menefie Authorizing her to dispose of the deceased's estate according to the true intent and meaneing of the s^{d} will wch was yen & yere proved & recorded ffeb 13th An^{o} 1645

Tho. Stegge
John Bishoppe
Thomas Drewe

Hoc testatur Ho^{ell} Price Curiac p^{r}dict Cler qui testament p^{r}dict et fecit extraxit, probavit et Record.

March the 25th 1646 Sr These may certifie yo^{u} that the sherr hath made returne of an accon entered against yo^{u} at the suite of Sr Edmund Plowden Knt. to wch he affirmes yo^{u} to appeare & answer on the 24th day of y^{r} p^{r}sent March being yor day of appearance and in regard yo^{u} have fayled yerein, Att the request of the s^{d} Sr Edmund Plowden whoe desires yis Court to request yor appearance at this Co^{rt} tomorrow being the 26y of yis p^{r}sent to answeare the s^{d} Acco against yo^{u} oyerwise the Court intends to pceed to order.

Ordered by the Court to be subscribed by Ro: Bouth, Cler. Cur.

I desire that an order may be entered for the payment of the tobacco due to Sr Edmund Plowden by the last of November nect with forbearance.

Wm. Brocas.

Nicholas Browne of the backe river aged forty yeares or thereabouts makes oath that Sr Edmund Plowden Knyght complayning Capt Wm. Brocas had promised to delv^{r} him a servant to waite on him & that under two hundred pounds of tobacco a mounth he could not hire any fitted & cloathed. This depo^{t} for a thousand pounds of tobacco & caske about the Eighth day of July last past sold to ye s^{d} Sr Edmund Plowden Thomas Waggett his tyme to serve him being for five mounyes & more. Nic Browne Jurat^{r} in Cur. Teste me Tho: Ely.

Humphrey Sayle doth sell and make over unto Humphrey Waldon twenty five Acres of land wch was for my psonall adventure unto Cheeskiacke. I say unto Humphrey Waldon & his heires forever & they quietly to enioie, for witness hereof I have hereunto sett my hand yis 4y of december 1635. This land Lay on the est side of Wests Creeke neare the Head yereof. Witness to yis Oliver Downes, Anthony Watts.

Richard Bennett of Yorke in the county of Charles River planter bond to Thomas Harwood of the county afforesd for 900 pounds Tobacco.

March the 25th 1646. Deed of Joseph Croshaw of Queene's Creeke planter & Edw Adcocke, of Martins, planter, for 210 Acres of land scituate and being on Queene's Creeke beginning and Butting upon the land of Wm. Ireland &c. (dated this 16th day of November, 1645).

I John Hartwell doe by these presents accknowledge that I am hartyly sorry for the scandall and Aspersion by me layd upon Wm. Todd and his wife and Edward Adcocke and his wife. And I doe hereby accknowledge my fault as witness my hand yis last day of July 1645.

The mark of John Hartwell.

Witness John Underwood, Lewis Burwell, Joseph Croshaw, Wm. Gauntlett.

A Court holden at Yorke the tenth day of Aprill 1646 By the Leifts & deputy Leifts.
Capt John West
Capt Wm. Brocas
Geo. Ludlowe
Capt Richard Townsend
Mr John Chew
Capt John Chisman
Capt Wm. Taylor
Esq^{s}

Whereas by virtue of an Act of Assembly dated at James Citty the second day of March last 1645 authorizing the Leifts and deputy Leifts of the county of Yorke to procure sixteene able men to march against the Indians under the command of Leift ffrancis Poythress and to be ready with there armes at the place of Randevous on the twentyeth of this p^{r}sent Aprill for to attend the s^{d} servis as affore^{sd} wch according to ye s^{d} Act is duly performed. And for as much as the s^{d} Souldiers that are prest are to have there labours made good to yem in there cropp or other there necessary imployments dureing the tyme of yere being absent in the s^{d} servis by those that stay at home, It is therefore ordered by the s^{d} Liefts and deputy Liefts that the s^{d} worke be duly and exactly payd by and from such ℙsons as are appoynted thereto to the s^{d} souldiers or for there uses to whome they shall assyne or appoynt y^{e} ℙment thereof uppn all demands, warneing thereof being first given yem by the sev^{r}all Constables of the county to pay ye same according to a list all ready delivered to ye s^{d} Constables of the county for there directions yerein, whereby the s^{d} workmen be justly & duly p^{d} according to & for the use of benefit of the s^{d} souldiers. And it is further ordered that all such psons as are ingaged for the ℙment of the s^{d} work who shall refuse or neglect the reall and good payment yereof according to warneing yereof given by the s^{d} Constables, shall for such yere neglect py to ye s^{d} souldier or souldiers to whom they should have p^{d} the same one hundred pounds of tobacco for every day soe neglected in consideration of ye s^{d} worke, And that the s^{d} sev^{r}ell Constables give sufficient

tymely notice to all psons for there ꝑformance of the s^d worke, when & where it is to be by yem pd according to yere sev^rall limitts & listes directing yem thereto, whereby noe excuses may be alledged by any ꝑson or ꝑsons for there non ꝑformance yereof according to y^s order.

(To Be Continued.)

SOME INNER HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIA COMPANY.

Communicated by N. W. STEPHENSON, of the College of Charleston, S. C.

The closer one observes the fragmentary records of the Virginia Company, the more one is convinced that in its affairs there were wheels within wheels both commercial and political. Among these was one hitherto ignored which may yet prove the main spring of much of the Company's politics subsequent to 1617. This was a syndicate of capitalists that controlled during several years the Company's monopoly of Virginia trade. The consideration aroused by them in the past has been scant indeed. Professor Osgood who refers to them by the extensive title of Society of Particular Adventurers for Traffic with the People of Virginia in Joint Stock[1] dismisses them with a page and a half. Miss Kingsburg, in that introduction to the Virginia Records[2] which crowns adequately her splendid toil, gives them but a few

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[1] *The American Colonies in the Seventeenth Century,* I, 88. In the Court Book of the Company they are spoken of as particular adventurers of the magazine. Kingsbury, *Records of the Virginia Company,* I, 233. Professor Osgood mentions their officers, "a director and five councilors," and adds that their "accounts were passed upon by the Auditors of the company." But unless I have misunderstood the entry in the court book, June 9, 1619, there had been no auditing previous to that time, and the auditing which then took place was forced upon the syndicate by its enemies.

[2] *Records of the Virginia Company,* I, 94 (Introduction): "The Courtbook is the only source of information with regard to the old Magazine . . . ."